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09/597,704	06/16/2000	Paul A. Voois	8X8S.249PA	3460

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EXAMINER

BAUGH, APRIL L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2141

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2003

9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/597,704

Applicant(s)

VOOIS ET AL.

Examiner

April L Baugh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 June 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-2, 4-11, and 13-14 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable by US Pat No. 6,263,064 to O'Neal et al.

Regarding claim 1, O'Neal et al. teaches a user-programmable communications arrangement including a computer having a display, the arrangement comprising: a user interface; and a programmable controller, the user interface and the programmable controller being adapted to: provide user-selected IP telephony configuration information to a control center communicatively coupled to a plurality of IP telephony devices (column 2, lines 6-10); display a control interface for at least one of: user control of an IP telephony device, office telephone administration control of a plurality of telephony devices, and system administrator control of telephony system configuration; and the IP telephony configuration information being selected to control communications between, and to programmably configure, the control center and the plurality of IP telephony devices (column 4, lines 8-20 and 30-37 and column 11, lines 36-50).

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Referring to claim 2, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications arrangement of claim 1, wherein the computer is adapted to announce an incoming call via the display, the call announce being effected without overtaking currently running applications (column 8, lines 14-17 and column 10, lines 4-7).

Regarding claim 4, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications arrangement of claim 2, wherein the call announce displays user control options including at least one of: caller ID, speaker phone, answer, forward to voicemail, hold, and call termination (column 1, lines 55-56 and column 6, lines 60-61 and column 10, lines 31-33 and column 11, lines 51-53 and 65-66 and column 12, lines 45-46).

Referring to claim 5, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications arrangement of claim 1, wherein the user interface includes a graphic user interface (GUI) (column 5, lines 32-36 and column 14, lines 35-39).

Regarding claim 6, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications arrangement of claim 1, wherein the computer includes one of the plurality of IP telephony devices (column 2, lines 6-10 and column 9, lines 34-37 and 44-48).

Referring to claim 7, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications arrangement of claim 1, wherein the controller is adapted to access personal contact information (column 4, lines 20-25 and column 8, lines 7-14).

Regarding claim 8, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications arrangement of claim 7, wherein the personal contact information is arranged in a searchable database accessible by the controller, the database being accessible via user-defined shuffle search statements (column 4, lines 20-25 and column 8, lines 7-14).

Referring to claim 9, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications arrangement of claim 1, wherein the controller is adapted to provide a control interface for system administration control of an IP telephony network, the interface being adapted to provide at least one of: IP telephony system configuration and system status information (column 4, lines 8-20).

Regarding claim 10, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications arrangement of claim 9, wherein the IP telephony system status information includes at least one of: IP address assignment information for telephony devices, user-access security control level settings, current telephony device hardware settings, display settings for the controller, and telephony device location information (column 1, lines 56-57 and column 7, lines 59-65 and column 8, lines 17-28 and 39-45).

Referring to claim 11, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications arrangement of claim 9, wherein the control interface is adapted to configure the IP telephony system to control at least one of: telephony device address assignment, user-access permissions, system report generation, display settings for the controller, voice mail parameters, IP telephony device hardware configuration, system backups, call routing protocol, call accounting, email configuration settings and call logging (column 4, lines 8-20 and column 7, lines 59-62 and column 8, lines 22-28 and column 10, lines 31-33 and column 11, lines 3-7 and 42-45).

Regarding claim 13, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications arrangement of claim 1, wherein user control of an IP telephony device includes active call control and call receive settings including at least one of: speaker phone activation, call answer, call forward to voicemail, call forward to another number or IP telephony address, call hold, call

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termination, display of caller ID, speed dial, call transfer, redial, voicemail forwarding, voicemail messaging, multi-party calling call muting, video control, and remote access control for remote access to telephony services (column 8, lines 14-17 and column 10, lines 31-33 and column 11, lines 51-53 and 65-66 and column 12, lines 4-7 and 45-46 and 58-60).

Referring to claim 14, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications arrangement of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of IP telephony devices includes a CPU, and wherein the user interface and controller are further adapted to: provide user-selected email configuration information to a control center communicatively coupled to each CPU; display a control interface for at least one of: user control of email configuration, office administration control of the plurality of CPUs, and system administrator control of email system configuration; and the email configuration information being selected to control communications between, and to programmably configure, the control center and the plurality of CPUs (column 4, lines 8-20 and 29-37 and column 9, lines 2-6 and column 11, lines 3-7 and 36-50).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3, 12, 15-22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Pat No. 6,263,064 to O'Neal et al. in view of Kishinsky et al.

Regarding claim 3, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications arrangement of claim 2 (column 8, lines 14-17 and column 10, lines 4-7).

O'Neal et al. does not teach locally installed OOP applet. Kishinsky et al. teaches wherein the call announce is effected using a locally installed OOP applet that runs in the background of the computer (column 2, lines 56-60). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the centralized communication control center for visually and audibly updating communication options associated with communications services of O'Neal et al. by locally installing an OOP applet because the system is now more efficient because OOP present simplified programming and quick execution.

Referring to claim 12, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications arrangement of claim 1 (column 4, lines 8-20 and 30-37 and column 11, lines 36-50).

O'Neal et al. does not teach the computer is adapted to use OOP. Kishinsky et al. teaches wherein the computer is adapted to use OOP for providing the user-selected IP telephony configuration information to the control center. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the centralized communication control center for visually and audibly updating communication options associated with communications services of O'Neal et al. by having the computer adapted to use OOP because the system is now more efficient because OOP present simplified programming and quick execution.

Regarding claim 15, O'Neal et al. teaches a user-programmable communications arrangement comprising: a user-interface device having a display, the device being adapted to provide IP telephony communications configuration information to a user via the display and to communicate IP telephony communications configuration selections from the user to a CPU; and a programmable CPU communicatively coupled to the user interface device, the microprocessor being adapted to receive the IP telephony communications configuration selections from the user-interface device and, in response to the received selections, control selected functions of selected IP telephony devices of an IP telephony communications system via the IP telephony communications link (column 4, lines 8-20 and 29-37 and column 8, lines 41-45 and column 11, lines 36-50).

O'Neal et al. does not teach an OOP interface. Kishinsky et al. teaches and having an OOP interface coupled to an IP telephony communications link (column 1, lines 36-39 and column 2, lines 56-60). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the centralized communication control center for visually and audibly updating communication options associated with communications services of O'Neal et al. by having an OOP interface because the system is now more efficient because OOP present simplified programming and quick execution.

Referring to claim 18, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications controller of claim 17, the display information including available IP telephony communications selections (column 11, lines 51-53 and Fig. 3).

O'Neal et al. does not teach send display information to the user-interface device using OOP. Kishinsky et al. teaches wherein the memory storage device is adapted to send display

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information to the user-interface device using OOP (column 1, lines 57-61 and column 2, lines 56-60). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the centralized communication control center for visually and audibly updating communication options associated with communications services of O'Neal et al. by sending display information to the user-interface device using OOP because the system is now more efficient because OOP present simplified programming and quick execution.

Regarding claim 19, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications controller of claim 15, wherein the user-interface device communicates the configuration selections (column 8, lines 41-45).

O'Neal et al. does not teach using OOP. Kishinsky et al. teaches wherein the user-interface device communicates the configuration selections using OOP. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the centralized communication control center for visually and audibly updating communication options associated with communications services of O'Neal et al. by using OOP because the system is now more efficient because OOP present simplified programming and quick execution.

Referring to claim 20, O'Neal et al. teaches a user-programmable communications control system for controlling a communications network, the control system comprising: a plurality of telephony devices coupled to an IP communications link and adapted to communicate IP telephony data (column 2, lines 6-10 and column 7, lines 39-42 and 45-47 and column 9, lines 34-37); a computer station having an interface, the station being adapted to display communications information including telephony communications information and to

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provide communications control selections including telephony control selections to the IP communications link; and a programmable communications server having an IP telephony switch and an interface coupled to the IP communications link and adapted to receive the communications control selections, the programmable communications server being adapted to control the communications network, including the plurality of telephony devices, responsive to the selections received through the interface (column 4, lines 8-20 and 29-37 and column 7, lines 16-19 and column 8, lines 41-45 and column 11, lines 36-50).

O'Neal et al. does not teach using OOP code. Kishinsky et al. teaches a computer station having an OOP interface (column 2, lines 56-60). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the centralized communication control center for visually and audibly updating communication options associated with communications services of O'Neal et al. by using OOP code because the system is now more efficient because OOP present simplified programming and quick execution.

Regarding claim 16, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications controller of claim 15, wherein the CPU is adapted to control the scope of IP telephony communications configuration selections that can be made by a particular user (column 11, lines 37-52).

Referring to claim 17, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications controller of claim 15, wherein the IP telephony system includes a memory storage device having user-access configuration data, wherein the CPU receives the configuration data for controlling the scope of configuration selections that can be made by a particular user (column 4, lines 20-25 and column 8, lines 7-14).

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Regarding claim 21, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications control system of claim 20, wherein the scope of communications control selections that can be made at the computer station is controlled by the programmable communications server based on a predefined user-access permission level (column 8, lines 17-28).

Referring to claim 22, O'Neal et al. teaches the user-programmable communications control system of claim 20, further comprising a plurality of the computer stations, wherein programmable communications server is adapted to receive communications control selections from each of the plurality of computer stations (column 5, line 64 through column 6, line 2 and column 6, lines 18-21).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patent is cited to further show the state of the art with respect to communications controllers in general:

US Pat No. 5,999,965 to Kelly.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to April L Baugh whose telephone number is 703-305-5317. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 703-305-4003. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-9149 for regular communications and 703-746-9149 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

ALB

July 31, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rupal Dharia', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

RUPAL DHARIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER